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Serial No. : 09/313,058
Filed : May 17, 1999
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Attorney's Docket No.: 02103-354001 / AABOSS05

Amendments to the Description:

Please amend the specification as follows.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 3 of page 1 with the following amended paragraph:

This application is a continuation-in-part of ~~Application Serial No. _____~~ filed _____, ~~entitled ENCODING AND DECODING which is a continuation of U.S. Application~~ Serial No. 08/796,285 filed February 7, 1997, ~~now abandoned~~ entitled Surround Sound Channel Encoding and Decoding, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,711,266, the entire disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 24 of page 6 with the following amended paragraph:

Referring now to Fig. 4, there is shown a first portion of the circuitry of output channel synthesizer 14. Lt input channel ~~12~~ 17 is fed multipliers 22 and 24, respectively, to form post-normalization channels Lc' 30 and Ls' 32 respectively. Similarly, Rt input channel ~~13~~ 19 is fed to multipliers 34 and 36, where it is multiplied by normalization coefficients A3 and A4, respectively, to form post-normalization channels Rs' 38 and Rc' 40, respectively.